

# News from New-England:

IN

A LETTER Written to a Person of Quality, wherein is a true Account of the present State of that Countrey, with respect to the late REVOLUTION, and the present War with the INDIANS there.

Together with, a RELATION of

## A Late and Bloody Fight

BETWEEN

The ENGLISH and the INDIANS, wherein the latter were Routed:  
AS ALSO OF

A Pretended Miracle of the French Jesuits in that part of the World.

Licens'd Febr. 27. 1689. - J. E.

Worthy Sir,

That you may not be imposed upon by false Accounts, which I perceive some Ill Men do with a malicious Design industriously promote, concerning the present State of New-England; I have thought it my Duty to Communicate to you what Intelligence I have received from thence.

You may please to be Informed, that above a year ago, whilst Sir E. A. who acted by an Illegal and Arbitrary Commission, under the late King James; was executing his Tyranny (as by their Declaration published at Boston, April 18<sup>th</sup>. 1689. does more fully appear) over the People of New-England, the Indians in that part of the World began a War upon them.

Those Indians affirmed (how truly God knows) that they were encouraged so to do, not only by the French, who inhabit that Continent, but by Sir E. A. that to they might destroy King James his Enemies. A small party of Indians began the War, some of which were seized by the English; but Sir E. set them at liberty, with many favours, which did not a little augment the Jealousies of the People; and it is said these very Indians have done a great part of the Mischief since sustained by the Inhabitants there. Whilst these things were a doing, Sir E. A. did all that possibly he could to keep People Ignorant of Affairs in England: Yea, some were imprisoned for dispersing the Prince of Orange's Declaration, which was styled by some a Seditious Pamphlet, tending to Rebellion. This, notwithstanding the Prince his Declaration, (Intelligence from England at the same time also arriving, that in Hull, Dover, &c. the Illegal Governours were seized on) did so inspire and animate great multitudes of People, as that they secured Sir E. and his Arbitrary Complices, who had been their Oppressors, reserving them for such Punishment as the King and Parliament of England should think meet for them: And this they did that all the World might see they acknowledge a dependance on England, as by their Charters they are obliged.

They supposed those Persons to be great Criminals, who had either prosecuted Quo Warranto's against their Charters, or pretended Surrenders

when there were none, or had levied Moneys on the Kings Subjects, without any consent of the People, or of their Representatives; and this too in those Colonies, against whose Charters no Judgment was entered, or legal Surrenders made, but an Arbitrary Power set over them.

On the first notice of his present Majesty (then Prince of Orange) his Declaration, before ever they knew what the Issues of things would be, they readily Embarked themselves in that Glorious Cause which is for Religion, Liberty, and Property.

And immediately upon their hearing that the Prince was King of England, they did with the greatest Alacrity Proclaim him their King in New-England: And this they did of their own accord, without any Order from hence requiring it of them.

After this (as Letters from thence inform) the Indians, to whom Sir E. A. had been so favourable, burnt several (some of them considerable) Plantations in the Eastern parts of the Countrey, killing or taking Captive some scores of them; of which as yet we have not a full and particular Account: Also the Fort of Pemmaquid being deserted, was sometime in the hands of the Indians; but the Master of the last Ship that came from Boston, relates, That now there are neither Indians, nor French, nor any other in that Fort, it being demolished by a Dutch Privateer, who was lately on that Coast, and has taken away the Guns which were in it.

'Tis also credibly reported, That the New-Englanders had a Fight with the Indians in September last: And that their Enemies were Routed, not one Indian-Enemy to be seen or heard of for six weeks before the last Vessels came from thence.

In a Letter from Boston, October 16. 1689. written by a good hand, are these words, "The Indians do now and then some hurt in our Plantations, but of late little, for there is an Army of English, with two or three hundred of our Friend-Indians gone out against them, and have beaten them. Also there is an Army of other Indians called Mohawks, which are going out against them, so that in a short time an end may be put to this trouble."

Another Letter written by a Person worthy of Credit,

Credit, (dated *October 21.*) giveth a further (and indeed a very remarkable) Account of the present State of Affairs there, which I have therefore caused to be transcribed; the words are these.

"Sir, Among our other Calamities at this day afflicting of us, we are extremely intangled by an Indian War, which hath ruined some Heathenish English Plantations in the Northern and Eastern Parts of the Countrey; but we have an Army now in the pursuit after those Enemies, who affirm (as our Captives escaped from them inform) that they are encouraged by some Gentlemen in Boston, vigorously to prosecute the War upon us. By a marvellous Providence the most Mighty and Warlike Nation of the Indians, namely, the *Mohawks*, who dwell three or four hundred miles to the Westward, are become implacable Enemies to the French of Canada, under whose Patronage and Encouragement our Indian Enemies do throud themselves. These *Mohawks*, which are the Terror of all about them, have kindly offered to give a Destructive Visit unto our Enemies, when their hand's in at the slaying of the French, whom they have already slaughtered many hundreds of, and we are every day waiting for the Issue of it.

"'Tis remarkable, That these *Mohawks* had been many of them perverted unto Popery by the endeavors of the French Jesuits amongst them; but some while since a noted Jesuit pretended to work a Miracle for their Confirmation in the Roman Catholic Religion; and told them, That God was angry at them for their making no more Demonstrations of their Zeal for his Religion; and therefore as a token of it, such a day the Sun would be black. Before the day came, the Assembly, many of whom had an opportunity for some Conversation with the Dutch, and acquainting them with their Expectations of this Miracle, the Dutch told them, Every Child amongst them could foretell as much as that came to; for an Eclipse of the Sun was to happen on that day: But (said they) let the Jesuit make the Sun black a day before, or a day after, and then believe all he says.

"Hereupon they were so terribly disaffected at the Jesuits going to put a trick upon them, that they have resolved to Renounce what little Popery they had, and have seriously applied themselves to some Protestant Ministers, whose Instructions they seem to imbibe with affections that invite us to consider upon some further Expedients for their Conversion." Thus that Letter.

There are also several Letters, dated *October* last, directed to some Persons of Quality in London, from the the Honourable *Simon Bradstreet*, who is the present Governour at Boston in New-England, which inform of the great Devastations made by the Indians in the Province of *Main*, (that having been the chief Seat of the War) and in *Hampshire*; and some mischief they have done (tho not much) in the *Massachusetts* Colony: But the three Colonies of *Massachusetts*, *Plymouth*, and *Connecticut*, (which were whilst they enjoyed their Charter-Government called the *United Colonies*) have by a joyned concurrence sent out a considerable Force against the Common Enemy in two Bodies; they could not come to a pitch Battel with the Indians, whose manner is to skulk in the Woods, and to do their

mischief by several Parties. The same Honourable Person (together with the Council in Boston) writes, that they are not secure from an Attack by the French, who (as they hear) have considerable strength in the *West-Indies*; but by the help of God, they will endeavour to preserve and defend their Majesties Interest, as well against the French, as any other Enemies to the Crown of England.

Also, That some in *Albany* fearing an Attack from the French, having first made their Application to *New-York*, could not be supplied from the place, they sent to the present Government at Boston for Assistance; and Order has been taken by the Concurrence of the three Colonies for the raising of a Company to be sent to *Albany*, to enforce and strengthen the Garrison there: For the several Governments of the Colonies in New-England, hold themselves concerned to intend the security and preservation of their Majesties Interest throughout that whole Countrey. And divers particular Persons (such is their Loyalty and Affection to their present Majesties, King William, and Queen Mary,) have been willing to advance of their own Estates, towards the charge thereof, upon the publick Credit, some beyond their Ability. They moreover write, That some Persons who are concerned in the present unhappy Government, have themselves disappointed in their hopes of raising their Fortunes upon the ruins of a People of New-England, manifest their dissatisfaction, not only to the present Government there, but in England also, some of them having been so impudent as to express their Expectations and Desires, that the late King James would be restored again; and have done what they could to Royle the Inhabitants, by raising and fomenting false Reports concerning the present State of Affairs in England: But the People (as well as those who are now in Government there) are secured in their Loyalty to their present Majesties.

This, Sir, is what is come to my hands respecting the present State of New-England. I expect more daily, which when I receive, I shall not fail to gratify your desires in imparting what may be relied on as a true Relation: This is all at present, from

Sir, Your Servant.

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